

The Oscillator

The Club...wants to be instrumental in helping the prospective and established Amateur to become a proficient communicator in the Amateur Radio Service.

Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club

Est: 1978

ARRL & BPL, ARRL Web

OTVARC SPOTLIGHT:

Events

- Fifth Wednesday Contest
October 29
- Election of Club Officers
November
- Annual Christmas Dinner
December 10
- Fifth Wednesday Contest
December 31

In This Issue:

ARRL & BPL	1
ARRL Antenna Design Course	2
Club News - HamFests	2
CW Petitions at FCC	4
VE News	5
Elections Process Open	5
Lunch Bunch/Travelers'	5
September Birthdays	6

The ARRL says Broadband over Power Line (BPL) proponents failed in their comments to the FCC to substantiate their claims that the technology will not cause widespread interference. In reply comments filed August 20th, the FCC's deadline to receive comments in the proceeding, ET Docket 03-104, the League said that if the FCC is going to rely on industry statements in making decisions on BPL deployment, the industry should back up its assertions with technical studies and hard data and make these public. The

ARRL characterized some industry comments regarding the interference potential of BPL as "wishful thinking" and based on flawed premises. It said the League's own technical exhibits--attached to its initial and reply comments--show that BPL signals do propagate well and that overhead power lines make excellent radiators of HF signals. The League noted that comments in the proceeding have been silent on the interference susceptibility of BPL to ham radio signal ingress.

See ARRL & BPL P. 4

THE PROGRAM

Our next meeting is Wednesday, September 10th. The Club opens at 7:00 pm at the Beaverton Elks' Club, 3500 SW 104th Ave, Beaverton (One block north of Canyon Road).

September brings us to the annual TAILGATE SWAP PARTY. Come and join in the fun.

Come early at 6:00 pm and get a no-host meal at the Elks' Buffet.

Introduce a friend to OTVARC. The best help for new hams is being part of a ham radio club.

From the Bridge H. D. Landers WAØBRU

August has had it's own challenges! So, what do I do? I sign up for the City of Beaverton CERT classes. I should be teaching them with my background in the fire service. Don, KK7TN, will

take the helm for the board meeting Sept. 24th, and the member meeting October 8th. I will be in class.

If you are from Beaverton, now is the time to get involved! Ideally, once

trained I should recruit others in the neighborhood to help form a team. Others will do the same in their areas.

Go To BRIDGE P. 3

ARRL Offers Antenna Design and Construction Course

The latest course in the ARRL's Certification and Continuing Education series has been announced. It is Antenna Design and Construction (EC-009). The course was prepared by *QST* Contributing Editor H. Ward Silver, NØAX, and will beta test in September. It features hands-on projects along with the book and written assignments. Students will become familiar with and experience antenna design and construction techniques. This course has 15 learning units, and takes 20 to 25 hours to complete over an 8-week period. It will earn 1.5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs). The only prerequisites is an Amateur Radio License. Registration for the course will be available on Sunday, September 21st at 9:01 pm PDT and each succeeding month on the Sunday prior to the fourth Monday. The first participants will be part of the beta test of the course. General registration will begin in November.

Basic computer, Internet, and email navigational skills are required. This course uses the *Simple and Fun Antennas for Hams* book, by Chuck Hutchinson, K8CH and Dean Straw, N6BV, for additional reading and construction activities. You should have a copy before you start this course. Materials will be needed (e.g., PL-259 connectors) depending upon which the construction projects you choose to undertake.

You will need the following equipment: a 2 meter radio with signal strength meter; HF radio; 50 to 100' of RG-58, 8X, or 213 coaxial cable with PL259's on each end; HF fwd/refl power & SWR meter; HF dummy load; Antenna tuner (optional); 1:1 ferrite bead choke balun. These may be borrowed for assignments.

You may wish to have the following reference material available: ARRL Antenna Book; Yagi Antenna Design - Jim Lawson W2PV; Antennas and Techniques for Low-Band Dxing - John DeVoldevere ON4UN; Antennas - John Kraus W8JK (serious theory book), all published by the ARRL.

Fees for the course (without book are \$65.00 for ARRL members and \$95.00 for non-members. With the *Simple & Fun* book the fees are \$80.00 for members and \$110.00 for non-members plus shipping.

Club Events

- Sep. 10: Club Meeting (7 pm)
- Sep 19 - 21: Travelers' to
Waterloo County Park
- Sep. 20: Lunch Bunch (1:30 pm)
- Sep. 23: Oscillator Deadline
- Sep. 24: Board Meeting (7 pm)
- Oct. 8: Club Meeting (7 pm)
- Oct. 16: SWAP-toberfest
- Oct. 22: Lunch Bunch (1:30 pm)
- Oct. 24: Oscillator Deadline
- Oct. 25: Board Meeting (7 pm)

HamFests

October 16: SWAP-toberfest
Mid-Valley ARES
Polk Fairgrounds, Rickreall
[Http://home.earthlink.net/~kd7bcv/swapflyer.html](http://home.earthlink.net/~kd7bcv/swapflyer.html)
Pre-register by Oct. 11th

TRAVELERS'

Al, W7SIC & Mary, N7TRW
Berg are wagonmasters for
the September Campout.
You can reach them at
w7sic@pocketmail.com or

by telephone at 503-816-7098. The September Campout will take us to Waterloo County Park near Lebanon on September 19, 20, & 21.

From the Portland area, take I-5 to Exit 228 (the Lebanon exit) and Hwy 20. Follow Highway 20 about 13 miles through Lebanon, and continue for less than 5 miles.

Watch for signs to Waterloo County Park.

BRIDGE, from Page 1

If something did happen we could be the difference between survival and losses.

Why? The services we depend on can be down. Fire equipment and ambulances damaged, unable to get to all areas, and simply taking major problems first. It could be several days before help could be given to other problems in other neighborhoods.

So far, I have not felt the earthquakes that have vibrated us since I moved here in '96. Most of the time, I have been on the road and couldn't tell a quake from road conditions. Once, I was in the Fujitsu building on the east side of town. Built on springs and rollers, we never felt a thing. A half-hour later we were on the roof of the Airport Holiday Inn, the maintenance staff said we were lucky as it would have shaken us off the roof.

Hey, got your dollars saved up? There are great deals to be made cleaning out the ham shack. On September 10th we hold our tailgate night at the club meeting. We have a short business meeting, then out to the parking lot to buy and sell. There will be goodies from the SK Family Assistance Program, so be sure to check out my tailgate spot.

Last month's OSCILLATOR had "Nets At The Heart of Amateur Radio." Each county ARES organization has its own net. Washington County is on Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm on 146.900. At 8:00 pm, packet and SSTV testing take place. There are other nets, the Astronomy Net, Evergreen Intertie, and ATV (fast scan) Net. On HF, there are nets like OMISS (old man international sideband society) that assist in making contacts for WAS, etc. Yes, nets are deeply in the heart of ham radio.

Want to get training? FEMA has free self-study programs. The ARRL ARES classes cost a lot of money. Nice idea, how many have the time and money to do it? It would be nice to do, and benefit all the systems: NTS, ARES/RACES, and ham radio in general.

Maybe the ARRL should try to set up non-college accredited, but ARRL/FCC accredited, programs. These programs would cover subjects like RTTY, packet, SSTV, Fast Scan TV, SSB, linear amps, antennas, and other specialty operations.

Another idea would be to make the CW bands available to those that have passed a CW exam. However, then we would go backward and make license hassles. Any class could

to make the CW bands available to those that have passed a CW exam. However, then we would go backward and make license hassles. Any class could have CW privileges if they pass CW. License would be Techs: VHF and up, Generals: HF and up, and Extra with all privileges (CW with a CW exam).

The courses could be connected to the license. This is how the Boy Scout merit badges are done: STAR, Life, and EAGLE ranks. You would have to pass certain classes to take upgrade tests from Tech to General, and Extra. Of course, this system would be complicated to police. Unlike the pilot's license, which has license types, subtypes, and ratings. Example: I have commercial pilot airplane single engine land, and rotorcraft helicopter.

Enough of my soap box on license reform. The pro and con debates go on in the magazines, on the web, and in groups on the air. We are all hams and each has their special talent and place in ham radio. I have an Extra but am glad Julie was able to get a no-code Technician.

End of page two is coming up fast so I will cut it here and wish every

one a great wrap of summer and a good remainder of the year. See you at our SWAP meeting.

73 & 88

Harold

CW, from Page 4

The National Conference of Volunteer Examiner Coordinators (NCVEC) in its petition, designated as RM-10787, calls on the FCC to delete Element 1 and give "Tech Plus" privileges to current Technician licensees. The NCVEC asked the FCC to "take expedited action" to allow volunteer examiner coordinators (VECs) to discontinue administering Element 1 "as soon as possible." The ARRL VEC abstained from voting when this proposal was passed at the National Conference meetings. The petition calls on the FCC to delete Element 1 and give "Tech Plus" privileges to current Technician licensees. The NCVEC petition says Morse testing unnecessarily burdens applicants, VECs, the FCC and the Amateur Service community.

FCC JOINS SIX CW PETITIONS

The FCC has opened public comments at the end of August on six Morse code petitions. The six requests for rule making differ widely. Some would eliminate Element 1, the 5 WPM Morse test, from Part 97. The World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) made the ability to send and receive Morse signals optional to operate below 30 MHz.

Peter M. Beauregard, K111, offered a petition, dated July 15 that has been assigned RM-10781. It would give all Technician licensees current Novice/Tech Plus CW privileges on 80, 40, 15 and 10 meters and limited phone and image privileges on 80, 40 and 10 meters. He said CW privileges would "encourage Technician class licensees to upgrade to General" by giving them a "practice area..". He has proposed new Technician Class phone/image privileges on 3850-3900 kHz and 7225-7300 kHz. This petition would not eliminate Element 1 from the rules.

Pete V. Coppola, KG4QDZ, and family--Tina Coppola, KG4YUM, and Pete A. Coppola, KG4QDY submitted a petition which asks the FCC to eliminate Element 1 from the rules. The Coppolas' petition has been designated RM-10782. It is dated July 18. This petition would grant Technician Plus HF privileges to current Technician licensees. It would keep all testing elements and licensing requirements the same. It would retain the current CW-only subbands. The Coppolas asked the FCC to make the change effective immediately on a provisional basis while the rule making process is under way.

Kiernan K. Holliday, WA6BJH, is asking the FCC to "remove all requirements for knowledge of Morse code" from the Amateur Service rules. "Fifty years ago, the requirement was reasonable, but as Morse code use has declined in other services there is less reason to require it in the Amateur Service," Holliday said the code requirement limits the ability of handicapped individuals to get ham tickets. "The Commission's policy should be to encourage the use of Amateur Radio," he said in his three-page petition, received July 21 and designated RM-10783.

Dale Reich, K8AD, would delete Element 1 for General class applicants but keep it in place for Extra class applicants. "This would protect the needed CW element for Amateur Radio licensing in the most advanced and highest class of ham license in the USA," he said. His petition is designated RM-10784 and dated July 28.

Eric Ward, N0HHS, seeks immediate elimination of "proficiency in telegraphy using Morse code," saying it's no longer justified. The "immediate removal of the telegraphy requirement from Amateur Radio licensing is appropriate and clearly in the public interest," Ward contends in his petition, dated July 30 and designated RM-10785.

See CW, Page 3

ARRL & BPL, from P. 1

The League predicted that even as little as 250 mW of signal induced into overhead power lines some 100 feet from an amateur antenna could degrade a BPL system or render it inoperative.

The ARRL called on the FCC to stop acting like a

cheerleader for BPL. "It is past time that the Commission acted in its proper role as a steward of the radio spectrum and recognized the interference potential of BPL to the sensitive incumbent licensed services in these bands," the League

concluded. "The Commission cannot stretch the Part 15 regulations as far as would be required to accommodate BPL."

The League's complete reply comments and technical exhibits are available on the ARRL Web site.

ELECTIONS PROCESS OPEN

What makes amateur radio one of the activities with a long tenure in our community.

Community service attracts good people. Emergency communication requires skill and practice, and there is great satisfaction in obtaining these.

The interaction with a variety of other people attracts many to amateur radio. Consider the variety of people in our club! We are diverse. Clubs are the lifeblood of amateur radio.

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club exists to help hams develop as amateur radio operators. See our brief mission statement on page 6. The club operates through a Board of Directors. Four officers are elected each year for one-year terms. Three Trustee positions will be open for election. These are two

year terms. Trustees currently serving are eligible to stand for re-election: Wes Allen K7WWG; J.D. Fort K7JDF; and Mel Sutton KB7PVW. Currently, Harold Landers WAØBRU is serving as president; Don Stettler KK7TN as vice president; Jeff Mathia as Secretary; and Linda Sutton as Treasurer. Each is eligible for re-election.

The 2003 Elections Committee is responsible for nominating members for election and for conducting the election process. They are working now. They are:

Maureen O'Rourke KA7LAP
John Anderson KA7BRZ
Claire Johnson N7CM

If you are interested in finding out more, talk with one of the Election Committee or a current office holder. The Committee will announce its nominees at the

October 8th Club meeting and open the process to nominations from the floor at the November 12th meeting. Ballots will be distributed to each current member for return prior to the December meeting.

Election results are announced at the December meeting.

If you have never served, are interested, and open to someone mentoring you as you begin to lead, why not consider running for an OTVARC Board position?

VE News

Seven applicants were tested on August 4th. No one went away empty handed! We had six new Technicians and one upgrade to General Class. Two young ladies made attempts at 5 WPM code and almost made it. They got Techs and I'm sure they'll be back to pick up that code credit soon. Thanks to VEs Claire N7CM, Ron K7GX, and Kevin KD5ONS. Next session is Sat. October 4th, 1:00 pm.

-- Carl WS7L.

Lunch Bunch

Well, this time the Lunch Bunch will gather for BREAKFAST.

Sunday, September 28th, we will Breakfast at Old Country Buffet in Beaverton. You'll find us at 3790 SW Hall Blvd near "The Round" at 8:30 am.

Come when you can, leave when you must. Talk in on 146.90 MHz.

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION



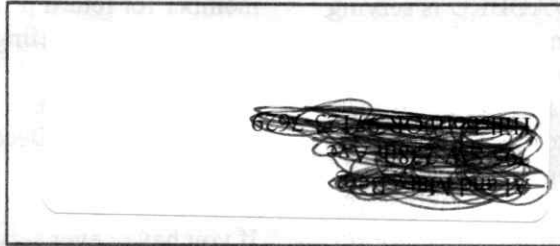
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CLUB MEETING SEPTEMBER 10TH



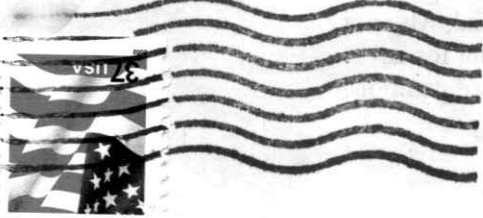
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**Oregon Tualatin Valley
Amateur Radio Club**



FIRST CLASS MAIL



CLUB INFORMATION

The Oregon Tualatin Valley Amateur Radio Club is a special service club related to ARRL: The National Association for Amateur Radio. We advance the Amateur Radio Service through:

- ⇒ Education and Training of new and licensed amateurs
- ⇒ Public Service and Emergency communication
- ⇒ Hobby nets, contests and meetings
- ⇒ Social events

Membership is available to anyone interested in amateur radio. A license is not required.

Membership dues are \$15/year; Family member(s) of full members at same address \$20/household; Full Time students and members of two years or more at age 70 or older (Life Members) are dues free. See Club Treasurer about purchase of life membership prior to age 70. If you wish to join during the year, dues are pro-rated.

Membership applications may be found on the Club Website or on request from the Treasurer.

The OSCILLATOR is published Monthly for members. The deadline for the October issue is Tuesday, September 23rd.

Happy September Birthday

5: Bob Heath KD7OHF

14: Neil McKie WA6KLA

15: Dale Planer KA7TZU

20: Catherine Lapay N7GCL

28: Teresa Mathia

Greg Poulin KC7TDK

29: Larry Hinton K7YBZ

Darlene Jaynes KB7STY